

# Council to Form Charter Study Committee

Torrance

# Press-Herald

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# Head-On Freeway Smashup Kills Wrong-Way Motorist

## One Dead After Earlier Crash

The driver of a wrong-way car and the driver of a vehicle he struck were killed Tuesday night on the Harbor Freeway near Pacific Coast Highway. Kenneth Leroy Schwarz, 32, who lived in Torrance at 17838 Bailey Drive, entered the freeway southbound in the northbound lanes somewhere around Sepulveda Boulevard, investigating officers reported at the scene.

After sideswiping two cars near Pacific Coast Highway, the Schwarz auto smashed into a car driven by Luther White, 31, of 308 N. Palos Verdes Drive, San Pedro. Both drivers were pinned in the wreckage of their vehicles and had to be pried out by county firemen. Both were pronounced dead shortly after 7:30 p.m. at Wilmington Receiving Hospital.

TWO OTHER autos collided trying to avoid the smashup, and the drivers received cuts and bruises. Neither required hospitalization, officers reported.

One person was killed and seven others injured in a series of weekend traffic accidents in the Torrance area.

Dead is Mrs. Maria Reiganga, 39, of 1821 Amelia Ave., San Pedro. She was killed about 12:20 p.m. Sunday when a car driven by her husband, Jelle, 43, went out of control and hit the center divider on the San Diego Freeway near Main Street.

California Highway Patrol officers said Mrs. Reiganga died when she was thrown from the family car and run over by another car. Officers said the driver of the second car was Leroy Smelser, 39, of Hawthorne. He was not held. Reiganga and two daughters, Joyce, 14, and Hendrika, 13, were treated for minor injuries.

RAIN WAS blamed for the accident by investigating officers.

One woman injured Sunday afternoon was hospitalized following a crash in the rain at Carson Street and Hawthorne Boulevard.

Joyce L. Mavor of 3334 Torrance Blvd. was taken to Little Company of Mary Hospital, where she was reported in good condition Monday. She was hurt in a three-car collision.

DRIVERS of the other two vehicles were identified by police as James W. Whetston, 52, of 22628 Ladeene Ave., and Wilbur H. Grattage, also 52, of 20913 Van Deene Ave.

A Lawndale woman sustained minor injuries just before noon Saturday when she apparently lost control of her car and crashed into a small sports car which was parked on a dealer's lot.

Mary V. Goodwin, 53, of 4213 W. 167th St., told police she would seek private medical attention.

POLICE said Mrs. Goodwin was driving south on Hawthorne Boulevard when she apparently lost control of her car at 190th Street. Her vehicle hit a car owned by Jerry Makowski of 4205 Paseo de las Tortugas. Makowski's sports car was parked on the lot at the Larry Reed automobile agency.

Herman A. Blanco of Westminster was released from Little Company of Mary Hospital after treatment for minor injuries following a crash about 9:10 p.m. Saturday.

Blanco suffered facial cuts when his vehicle collided with a station wagon driven by Dorothy S. Barrett of 1012 Avenue C, Redondo Beach. The crash occurred near

See TRAFFIC on A-2

## Charter Session Tuesday

City Councilmen last night cleared the way for a long-awaited study of the Torrance city charter by agreeing on plans for the formation of a citizens' study group.

At the suggestion of Mayor Albert Isen, councilmen voted to appoint a 7-man committee which will meet and select 14 other residents of the city to serve on a 21-member study group.

Each councilman will appoint one of the original seven members. A brief personnel session will be held at 5 p.m. next Tuesday to discuss the appointments.

THE INITIAL appointments presumably will be made following that session.

Several organizations, including the Torrance League of Women Voters and the Torrance Chamber of Commerce, have urged the council to begin a thorough citizens review of the charter. Such a review was promised following a special election last November.

Councilmen previously have indicated that the citizens' group will be given a free reign to examine and question every section of the charter.

MAYOR ISEN warned that the 14 additional members to be added to the committee "will not be two more appointments by each councilman." The seven-man committee will be left alone to select additional members, he said.

All members of the committee will be residents of the city, it was indicated.

Councilmen generally have agreed they want to remove any study of the charter from the control of the city's agencies.



PUDDLE JUMPING . . . Charming Sue Foster, the reigning Miss Torrance, finds the footing a little wet as she steps from a curb during this week's rains. Two major storms passed over the Southland during the weekend, dumping up to 6 inches of rain on the area. Clearing began early today and is expected to continue today and tonight. Slightly cooler temperatures have been forecast. (Press-Herald Photo)

## Friends of Library Hold First Session

Torrance doesn't exactly have its own library system as yet, but the city's does have a new group of Friends of the Library.

The group was organized Monday evening following a brief meeting at the Torrance Recreation Center. Mrs. Howard Foote of 22925 Madison

Ave. was elected interim president of the group. Other new officers are Mrs. D. W. Walker, vice president; Mrs. Richard Krueger, recording secretary; Mrs. Ann Lubahn, corresponding secretary, and Tom Foster, treasurer.

FIRST GOAL of the new group is to work in concert with other citizen groups to make sure Torrance does get its own library system, Mrs. Foote explained. Those efforts will be directed toward securing voter approval of a \$2.3 million library bond issue at an April 18 election.

The bonds will be used to finance a new civic center library, to expand existing branches, and, most important, to finance the purchase of books. Some 80 per cent of the total will be used to buy books.

But the Torrance Friends of the Library are not going to disband once the votes have been counted.

The group will be a continuing organization, devoted to developing and maintaining the city's libraries.

Torrance libraries have been operated for the past 35 years under a contract with the county public library system. The county, however, will not renew the contract when it expires in 1968, so councilmen already have

voted to establish a municipal library system on July 1, 1968.

Speakers at Monday's or (See LIBRARY on A-2)



LIBRARY FRIENDS . . . It's been less than 48 hours since the Torrance Friends of the Library were organized and this trio was elected to lead the group during its organizational period, but already the new officers are hard at work. Pictured are (from left) Mrs. D. W. Walker, vice president; Mrs. Howard R. Foote, president, and Mrs. Richard F. Krueger, recording secretary. First task for the new group will be a campaign to win approval of a \$2.3 million bond issue to finance the purchase of books and new facilities for a municipal library system in the city. (Press-Herald Photo by Mike Eggers)



RAM B. K. SHRESTHA  
Ending Visit

## Nepalese Says

# Teenagers Same The World Over

Teenagers are pretty much the same the world over.

That is the conclusion of Ram B. K. Shrestha, an educator from Nepal, who is ending a three-week visit to Torrance this week.

Shrestha, one of some 275 teachers from 63 nations on a six-month tour of the United States, is spending this week at South High School. He also has visited West High and Torrance High schools.

THE TOUR, which began in Madison, Wis., is sponsored by the U. S. Office of Education and the U. S. Department of State. During the past five months, Shrestha has visited Denver, Colo., Los Angeles, and Sacramento. He will go back to Sacramento for the final few weeks of the

tour, then return to Nepal about the end of February.

During his trip, Shrestha has paid special attention to the techniques of teaching employed by American teachers and to the administrative procedures in American high schools.

Although he is only 26, Shrestha is headmaster at Azad High School which enrolls about 300 students in grades six through ten. His staff consists of 16 teachers — including two who are members of the Peace Corps. Shrestha also teaches mathematics and science in addition to his administrative duties.

EDUCATED in Nepal, he holds both bachelor's and (See NEPALESE on A-2)

## Special Census Ordered

A special census, to be conducted for the city by the State Department of Finance, will begin here March 8 following action last night by the City Councilmen. Jerome I. Scharfman, assistant city manager, said the city expects to gain more state revenues once the census is completed because of gains in the city's population. Cost of the nose count will be about \$25,000, he reported. In a speech before the Torrance Chamber of Commerce last week, City Manager Edward J. Ferraro predicted the population of Torrance will be between 145,000 and 150,000.

## Bank Buys School Bonds

A \$1 million Torrance school bond issue was sold yesterday to the Bank of California. The county Board of Supervisors approved sale of the bonds to the bank, which submitted a low bid of 3.3852 per cent interest. The issue is the first from the \$9 million in bonds authorized by voters at a special school election last June 7. Bids on the Torrance bonds ranged to a high of 3.62408. School officials hailed the low bid as "very good" and noted that one school district was required to pay 4.25 per cent on bonds sold yesterday.

## Liquor Store Clerk Robbed

A red-haired, blue-eyed bandit who entered the Trading Post at 20317 Hawthorne Blvd. Tuesday afternoon on the pretext of buying some magazines held up clerk Edgar Owens at gun point and left with a sack of money, Owens told police. The bandit, about 33 and 5 feet, 10 in. height, told Owens to put all the money from the register in a paper bag, and then forced him into a walk-in cooler and told him to stay five minutes. After the bandit had left, Owens tripped the alarm bringing police to the scene. The amount of money taken was not reported.

## Police Cadet Program Wins 'Success' Label



RICHARD KLAUS  
Making Property Check

The four members of the Torrance Police Department cadet program have been pioneering a new training procedure for the city, according to a feature prepared for today's Press-Herald by staff writer and photographer Hal Fisher.

One of the cadets, Stephen Packard, has nearly completed the program, placed first in a field of 13 new applicants and will be appointed to the Police Department in February, Chief Walter R. Koenig reports.

Shown at left is Cadet Richard Klaus, who is checking in a tambourine during a tour of training duty in the police property room. The item, along with hundreds of others received regularly, may figure in a future court trial. (See Page C-1)